

OUTGOING MESSAGE

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OPERATIONS GROUP FILE

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TO: PRIORITY FBIS/NICOSIA INFO FBIS/LONDON. HHHHHHHHHHHH

REF: FBIS/NICOSIA 40632 Y

cc: C/FCS
C/EDSS

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1. WE ARE NOTIFYING CAIRO THAT YOU INTEND TO ARRIVE MID-JUNE AND WILL BRIEF EMBASSY AND CONSULATE OFFICERS AS REQUESTED. EMBASSY IS CLOSED FRIDAY-SATURDAY AND CONSULATE SATURDAY-SUNDAY. PRESUME YOU WILL HAVE TO FIT TRAVEL TO WHEN YOU CAN GET SPACE ON AVAILABLE FLIGHT. PLEASE ADVISE ITINERARY DIRECTLY TO CAIRO/ALEXANDRIA WHEN TRAVEL DATES FIRM, AND ALSO REQUEST HOTEL RESERVATIONS IF YOU WISH HELP. Y

2. AMONG THE THINGS YOU SHOULD EXPLORE DURING YOUR VISIT ARE THE OPTIONS FOR STAFFING THE REMOTE OPERATION, ASSUMING THE SURVEY IS SATISFACTORY AND WE IN FACT GET APPROVALS TO SET UP UNIT IN ALEXANDRIA. Y

3. WE WOULD PREFER A TOTALLY UNMANNED, REMOTELY CONTROLLED OPERATION, AND THIS PROBABLY SHOULD BE OUR LONG-TERM GOAL, BUT THIS WILL DEPEND ON THE STATE AND RELIABILITY OF LOCAL COMMUNICATIONS AND OF THE VOICE LINES AVAILABLE BETWEEN NICOSIA AND ALEXANDRIA. UNTIL

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THESE THINGS CAN BE TESTED, WE MUST PLAN ON A MANNED OPERATION AND WILL LOOK TO YOU TO HELP US DETERMINE, ON THE BASIS OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS IN CAIRO AND ALEXANDRIA, WHAT SHAPE THIS OPERATION SHOULD TAKE. 4

4. PLANNING TO DATE HAS ASSUMED THAT WE WOULD HIRE THREE LOCALS WHO WOULD MAN THE TUNING/RECORDING/VOICE FEED ACTIVITY. BUT THIS APPROACH COULD HAVE MANY PITFALLS, E.G. WOULD THE EMBASSY FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THREE RELATIVELY UNSUPERVISED FOREIGN NATIONALS? WOULD THE CONSULATE BE WILLING OR ABLE TO MANAGE THEM FOR US? HANDLE THEIR T/A REPORTING AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE CHORES, ETC., ETC.? 4

5. OBVIOUSLY WE WOULD NEED TO SEND A U.S. STAFF ENGINEER TO ALEXANDRIA TO SET UP THE OPERATION AND HANDLE RECRUITING, BUT WE HAD NOT BEEN CONSIDERING DEVOTING A MODE I SLOT TO THE OPERATION. IF THE PLAN TO USE THREE LOCALS APPEARED REALISTIC WE WOULD WITHDRAW THE STAFF ENGINEER AFTER AN INITIAL TDY OF THREE TO SIX MONTHS, RELY ON THE LOCALS HE SELECTED, AND DEPEND ON NICOSIA TO CHECK UP ON THEM EVERY SO OFTEN. 4

6. ALTERNATIVELY, WE COULD PCS A SEASONED FBIS N/S EMPLOYEE

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Approved For Release 2007/06/14 : CIA-RDP84-00868R000100090008-8

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FROM ANOTHER BUREAU--POSSIBLY ONE OF LONDON'S SENIOR TELETYPE SUPERVISORS--WHO COULD TAKE CHARGE OF THE OPERATION AND MANAGE TWO LOCAL EMPLOYEES. IT MAY BE, HOWEVER, THAT THE EMBASSY WILL INSIST ON HAVING AN AMERICAN PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED. 4

7. YOU WILL SIMPLY HAVE TO TEST THE WATERS WITH THE EMBASSY AND CONSULATE AND THEN MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO HQS ON WHAT TYPE OF PERSONNEL CONFIGURATION WE SHOULD PLAN FOR BASED ON WHAT THEY SAY AND YOUR OWN BEST JUDGMENT. RVW 02JUN86 [REDACTED] ALL
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